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APPLICATION NO	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
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J C Patents Incorporated			EXAMINER		
4 Venture Suite Irvine, CA 926		AHMED. SHAMIM			
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No. Applicant(s) CHRN ET AL.							<i>y</i> 3				
Art Unit Shamma Ahmod 1755	Office Action Summary		Application No.		Applicant(s)						
Shamim Ahmed 1/65			09/759,899	09/759,899 CHEN ET AL.							
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2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 5 and 6 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 5 and 6 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Application Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filled on 12 January 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). 11) The proposed drawing correction filled on is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner. If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action. 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Correctified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application). a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received. 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.	A SHO THE N - Exten after: - If the - If NO - Failur - Any re	DRTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPL MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. sions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1. SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a rep period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period e to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statutely proceived by the Office later than three months after the mailing	. 136(a). In no event ply within the statuto d will apply and will ete. cause the applica	, howevery mining sexpire Sexpire Sexpire to	ver, may a reply be tim mum of thirty (30) day NAX (6) MONTHS from become ABANDONE	nely filed s will be considered time the mailing date of this of D (35 U.S.C. § 133).	ly. ommunication.				
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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 5-6 have been considered but are most in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 3. Claims 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zhao et al (5,660,682) in view of Sun et al (5,674,357).

Zhao et al disclose a cleaning process of an integrated circuit device, wherein a majority of photoresist is removed by conventional method such as wet or dry etching process (col.1, lines 30-43).

Zhao et al also disclose that the photoresist removal process form undesirable material such as silicon oxide on the exposed surface of the silicon substrate and residual polymeric photoresist (col.1, lines 54-63).

Zhao et al further disclose that the undesirable material and the residual polymeric photoresist are removed by ion bombardment with argon plasma (col.1, lines 64-67 and col.2, lines 66-col.3, lines 32).

Zhao et al remain silent about the majority of photoresist is removed by oxygen plasma.

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However, in a method of removing photoresist, Sun et al teach that oxygen plasma is conventionally used to remove majority of photoresist for reducing the processing cost because the oxygen plasma is art recognized process (col.7, lines 64-col.8, lines 5).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of claimed invention to combine Sun et al's oxygen plasma into dry etching of Zhao et al's process for reducing the processing cost because the oxygen plasma is art recognized process for easily removal of photoresist as taught by Sun et al.

Conclusion

- 4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Chen (5,970,376) disclose a method of removing photoresist and the remaining polymer residue using oxygen and argon plasma; Delfino et al (5,627,105) disclose that argon plasma ion bombardment is used to remove oxide for silicon substrate before a subsequent process (col.3, lines 32-38) and Smith et al teach that after removal of photoresist, the residual photoresist is removed by argon plasma (col.4, lines 32-36).
- 5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

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TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shamim Ahmed whose telephone number is (703) 305-1929. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Thu (7:00-5:30) Every Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Benjamin Utech can be reached on (703) 308-3836. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)-872-9310 for regular communications and (703) 872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

Shamim Ahmed Examiner Art Unit 1765

SA May 19, 2003

BENJAMIN L. UTECH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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